News from U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC)

Wednesday, April 10, 2002 - For Immediate Release

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Spratt To Present Bronze Star to WWII Veteran

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) will present the Bronze Star Medal to John E. Moss, of Blacksburg, during a ceremony on Sunday.

The ceremony will take place at 8:45 am, April 14, at Hopewell Baptist Church, 511 Old Chester Road, in Blacksburg.

Moss was a Private in the Army in Europe during World War II and was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge for his meritorious achievement in active ground combat. He served in Company B, 351st Infantry Regiment.

In 1947, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower decided that based on the spirit of the award, all those who earned a Combat Infantryman Badge or a Combat Medic Badge during the war should also receive the Bronze Star.

"Like John Moss, many who served in Word War II were already out of service and never received the award," said Spratt, a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee. "After contacting the Army on his behalf, I was delighted to learn that he qualified for the Bronze Star."

According to the Army, Moss' Bronze Star Medal was awarded for "meritorious achievement while serving in the European Theater of Operations from 12 August 1944 to 16 August 1945 in military operations against an armed enemy of the United States during World War II. Private First Class Moss' exemplary performance of duty in active ground combat was in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the 351st Infantry Regiment, and the United States Army."

In addition to Rep. Spratt, the ceremony will include Lt. Col. Mike Owensby, of the South Carolina National Guard, and Rev. Charlie Barnard, of Hopewell Baptist Church.